



# Fairholme College

## TOOWOOMBA

COVID-19 UPDATE

3 April 2020

Dear Parent/s

The term has finished, and holidays have begun – collectively we are all exhaling, having teetered precariously within new learning territory for the past week or more. Our staff have been learning on the run, being stretched in very different directions in their thinking and their practice. Our students have been learning too – about managing distractions, about dislocation from friends and teachers, and also about independence, flexibility in time management, and how to connect digitally (even though many are very practiced at this). There have been frustrations with technology ... for some there has been limited access – or too much. But we are all learning and managing change at an accelerated rate, even though at times it feels like the world is on pause.

We look to the commencement of term 2 although, like you, wonder what that might look like. At present there has been no definitive directive from Government, Health Department or Independent Schools Queensland regarding proposed start dates for day or boarding students. Late yesterday, the Director General of Education shared the following: *'I am aware that all schools are seeking further information about the status of schooling for Term 2. Our preparation and planning this week is essential for us to be ready for a learning@home model should that be required. Decisions about the operation of kindergarten and schools will be informed by national and state health advice and informed by the status of our nation's response to COVID-19 and I will provide updated information on this as soon as I am able.'*

Whilst all Fairholme staff return on 20 April for a 21 April commencement of school, we are mindful that there are many possibilities for how it might look. For our boarding families, it would seem unlikely that we will commence boarding on 20 April. As soon as a determination has been made around starting dates and attendance requirements, I will be in touch.

For now, keep well, take care, lean in for support and look outwards to those who need our care and attention most. We are strongest in community.

I will continue to be in communication with you.

Thank you for your patience and understanding in the recent weeks.

Kind regards

*Linda Evans*

Dr Linda Evans | Principal

